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February 9, 2018

Members of the California Legislature
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: SB 946 (Lara) Sidewalk Vending - OPPOSE

Dear Legislator,

Founded in 2005, the South Park Business Improvement District (SPBID) is a 52-block region in Downtown Los Angeles that includes the STAPLES Center, Los Angeles Convention Center, L.A. LIVE, and a rapidly growing residential population. Our core role is to ensure South Park is clean and safe – allowing residents and businesses to thrive.

SPBID opposes Senate Bill 946 (Lara), which would prohibit cities from adopting rules or regulations related to sidewalk vending without first implementing a licensing program. This bill would force every city in California to permit vending and would greatly reduce a city's ability to regulate vending according to the needs of their community. As proposed, SB 946 is a one size fits all approach that is not practical for a state as diverse as California and will not support the creation of a thriving vending program in Los Angeles.

Should a city choose to adopt a sidewalk vending program, this bill would prohibit establishing designated vending locations and prevent cities from including a requirement that vendors gain permission to do business from the adjacent brick-and-mortar establishment. This bill is in direct conflict with these kind of regulations as they have been enacted by municipalities around California.

Over the past several years, we have joined a broad coalition of organizations working with the Los Angeles City Council to create a sidewalk vending program that balances the needs of brick-and-mortar establishments with the needs of vendors. We believe a sidewalk vending program in Los Angeles must include density limitations, property or business owner consent and the ability for destination venues to opt out of vending.

Additionally, in order to have a thriving vending program there must be enforcement. This is the only way to create a level playing field for vendors who are good operators. SB 946 provides no resources to cities to support enforcement while limiting local control to create an efficient vending program designed for their city.

SOUTH PARK BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

1100 S Flower St #3400, Los Angeles, CA 90015

www.southpark.la



SPBID is dedicated to the vibrancy of Downtown Los Angeles and supportive of micro-entrepreneurship and legal sidewalk vending, however, we disagree that SB 946 is the right approach and encourage you to oppose SB 946

Sincerely,

Ellen Riotto
Executive Director
South Park Business Improvement District